

In the claims:

Kindly rewrite the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) Sluice system for a vacuum coating facility for coating substrates ~~that can be moved~~ through the vacuum coating facility in at least one direction of conveyance, ~~with comprising:~~

a prevacuum sluice chamber to which a prevacuum pump system ~~can be detachably is~~ connected by means of a first selectively activatable valve arrangement, ~~characterized such that~~ and a high-vacuum pump system (12) ~~is detachably connected~~ to the prevacuum sluice chamber (2) by means of a second selectively activatable valve arrangement (16) ~~and~~, the second valve arrangement (16) ~~can be being~~ activated and deactivated inversely to the first valve arrangement (11).

2. (Currently amended) Sluice system according to Claim 1, ~~characterized such that~~ a wherein the prevacuum pump system (6) ~~exhibits comprises~~ at least one Root pump (7) as a main pump (8) and at least one rotary slide-valve pump (9) as a backing pump (10).

3. (Currently amended) Sluice system according to Claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized such that wherein~~ the high-vacuum system (12) ~~exhibits comprises~~ at least one turbo-molecular pump (13) as a main pump (14), and at least one backing pump arrangement (19), which corresponds to ~~the a backing pump~~ arrangement of the prevacuum pump system (12).

4. (Currently amended) Sluice system according to ~~Claims Claim 1 to 3,~~ characterized such that wherein the prevacuum pump system (6) ~~can be detachably connected is~~ selectively connectable to the high-vacuum system (12).

5. (Currently amended) Sluice system according to Claim 4, ~~characterized such that wherein~~ the prevacuum pump system (6) ~~can be activated in such a way that it is directly is~~ selectively connected to the prevacuum sluice chamber (2) in a first operating state and, alternatively ~~to this,~~ is activated in a second operating state as a backing pump arrangement (19) of the high-vacuum pump (12), ~~whereby and wherein~~ the high-vacuum pump system (12)

~~exhibits~~ comprises a support pump (15), which is activated in the first operating state as a backing pump arrangement (19) of the high-vacuum pump system (12).

6. (Currently amended) Sluice system according to Claim 5, ~~characterized such that~~
~~the~~ wherein a pressure side of ~~the~~ a main pump (14) of the high-vacuum pump system (12) is
connected to ~~the~~ an intake side of the support pump (15) and detachably connected to ~~the~~ an
intake side of ~~the~~ a main pump (8) of the prevacuum pump system (6) in parallel to the support
pump (15) by means of a bypass line (17) and a bypass valve (18), ~~whereby and wherein the~~
bypass valve (18) ~~can be~~ is activated inversely to the first valve arrangement (11).